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QUARTERLY ENVIRONMENTAL NEWSLETTER FOR NS MAYPORT FL
12/1/1996
NAVAL STATION MAYPORT

NAVY Green

Mayport, FL

Naval Station Mayport

Winter 1996

Naval Station Mayport Says "Tanks!"

Several of the important military functions that Naval Station Mayport performs, such as radar services for the station's airfield and communication services, couldn't happen without power supplied by on-base generators. Providing this generator power, as well as fuel for vehicles, is an extensive system of petroleum storage tanks.

Naval Station Mayport administers its petroleum storage tank program in accordance with regulations of the State of Florida. The base currently manages more than 60 storage tank systems, including underground and aboveground tanks. All construction projects involving storage tanks require compliance with Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP) regulations. These regulations are designed to ensure that storage tanks are built and monitored in such a way that, should any release from the tank occur, the surrounding environment would be protected.

We have just completed a \$1.8 million program which replaced 43 storage tank systems and removed 11 tanks from service in an effort to comply with the regulations. To help make monitoring large tanks easier, 17 of the underground storage tanks removed were replaced with aboveground tanks. We also replaced several aging boiler tanks on base.

These were not regulated by the State, but we felt that replacing them was the best way to protect the environment.

Due to our proactive efforts on this project, we are now well ahead of the regulatory deadline set by the State of Florida. Our tanks program is evidence that Naval Station Mayport is committed to achieving full compliance for our tank systems, four years earlier than required!

For further information on the storage tank program at Naval Station Mayport, please contact Jan Bovier at 904-270-6730 (x46).



A typical underground storage tank removal

Dear Neighbor:

Recently, Naval Station Mayport was selected as the Atlantic Fleet's nominee for the 1995 Secretary of the Navy Pollution Prevention Award. I am especially proud of this honor because pollution prevention is one of the areas in which we have concentrated our environmental efforts.

At Naval Station Mayport, we believe the easiest way to control pollution is at the source. With that philosophy in mind, we have embarked on a quest to cut our pollutant emissions in half by 1999.

One of our biggest successes has come in our program to control and manage hazardous materials. In less than two years of operation, our program has saved the Navy and taxpayers more than \$2.6 million through a system of centralized storage, reclamation of materials, and reduction of costly and dangerous hazardous waste.

We have also installed some innovative technology around the base to help scale back the amount of hazardous materials we use in our day-to-day operations.

New

aircraft parts washers at our aviation repair facility use high-pressure hot water and a biodegradable detergent instead of petroleum-based solvents to wash greasy

aircraft engine parts. A hydraulic fluid purifier scheduled for installation in March will allow us to reclaim fluid that would otherwise be wasted. An antifreeze recycling system also scheduled for installation in March will eliminate the need to dispose of used antifreeze, an environmental hazard.

In addition, we have almost completely eliminated the use of all ozone-depleting substances at the Naval Station. By studying causes of oil spills during refueling operations and identifying root causes, we have cut the number of gallons spilled by 75 percent over the past two years.

At Naval Station Mayport, we take our commitment to protecting the environment very seriously. Through

approaches like our pollution prevention program, we will continue to make great strides toward a cleaner, safer tomorrow.



SCOTT T. CANTFIL
Captain, U.S. Navy
Commanding Officer
Naval Station Mayport

You're Invited...

Naval Station Mayport is leading the way in environmental cleanup through our Installation Restoration program, Navy Environmental Leadership Program (NELP), and everyday activities. We want to demonstrate to you, our neighbors, Naval Station Mayport's achievements and continuing efforts in environmental cleanup.

We will host an Open House in April where you can informally discuss our environmental stewardship programs, accomplishments, and future activities. Representatives from the Navy and the regulatory agencies (FDEP and United States Environmental Protection Agency [USEPA]), environmental engineers, and scientists working on the cleanup, and the dedicated community members on our Restoration Advisory Board (RAB) will be on hand to answer your questions.

The session will be an interesting presentation of poster displays, equipment demonstrations, and a video about the base to give you a look into our environmental investigation and cleanup activities. This format will provide you with an opportunity to informally review information at several poster stations, pick up information packets, and have one-on-one discussions with our cleanup team members. Poster stations will include information on the following topics:

- Environmental Investigations and Cleanup
- Endangered Species and Ecological Resources
- Community Involvement Activities
- Future Activities

We have a dedicated team working on cleanup at Naval Station Mayport and want to keep you informed at each step of our cleanup process. We look forward to seeing you at our Open House!

The American Alligator

It's Not a Croc!

Ever wonder what the difference is between an alligator and a crocodile? The answer: The American Alligator is found throughout the southeastern United States and has a large rounded snout. The American Crocodile is found only in southern Florida, south of Miami, and has a pointed snout. If you think you see a large reptile around Mayport, it's most likely an alligator.

The American Alligator is listed as a Federal threatened species and a Florida species of special concern because it looks very similar to a crocodile, which is endangered. Illegal hunting and destruction of wetlands have caused a reduction in the population of crocodiles and alligators.

American Alligators live in the river swamps, lakes, bayous, marshes and other water bodies of Florida and the lower Atlantic coastal plains. These animals can often be seen prowling waterways with their eyes and

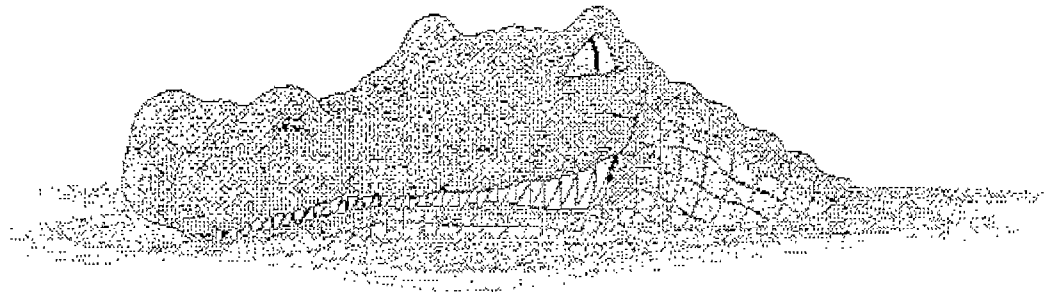
nose just above the water surface looking for prey, which typically includes ducks, herons, and other aquatic birds. Occasionally alligators will climb on shore to bask in the sun, which helps to regulate their body temperature.

Early spring is breeding season when the male alligators can be heard issuing a throaty, bellowing roar. In spring to early summer, female alligators build large nests for their eggs, which incubate for nine weeks. During this time the female stands close guard, aggressively chasing away intruders.

Alligators currently inhabit the area surrounding Mayport and have been spotted in Lake Wonderwood. Female alligators are very protective of their nests and their young. If you stumble across a young gator or a nest, BEWARE! The mother is most likely nearby and ready to strike if her territory is threatened.

Naval Station Mayport will host an Open House in April, and everyone is invited to come in and find out more about our environmental cleanup programs.

*To find out more information...
please take the time to fill out the attached
reply card and drop it in the mail!*



Questions & Answers

Naval Station Mayport - who to call:

For general questions or information about Naval Station Mayport and the environmental programs, contact:

Lt. John Wallach
Public Affairs Officer
(904) 270-5226

An information repository containing documents related to the environmental cleanup activities at Naval Station Mayport is also available to the public. The information repository is located at:

Beaches Branch Public Library
600 Third Street, Neptune Beach, FL
(904) 241-1141

For more specific technical questions relating to the Installation Restoration program or cleanup activities, contact:

Cheryl Mitchell
Environmental Engineer
(904) 270-6730

**Please take the time to fill out the enclosed
reply card and drop it in the mail!**
**We look forward to seeing you at our
Open House in April.**

RAB meetings are held in the Atlantic Beach
Council Chamber, 800 Seminole Road,
at 6:30 p.m.

Become involved in the environmental program at Naval Station Mayport; **attend an RAB meeting!** These meetings are held regularly and are open to the public. Notices of RAB meetings are published in the Shorelines edition of the *Florida Times-Union* and are mailed to our mailing list.

To get on our mailing list, please call Lt. John Wallach or Cheryl Mitchell.

Public Affairs Officer
Naval Station Mayport
Mayport, FL 32228-0032

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